



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

*Jim Gibbons, Governor*

*Allen Biaggi, Director*

*Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator*

## Notice of Proposed Action

November 2, 2007

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 445B, the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 445B, and the Clean Air Act, the Division of Environmental Protection is issuing the following notice.

The Administrator received an application to issue an operating permit for a Class I facility from the following applicant:

Barrick Gold U.S., Inc.  
Cortez Gold Mines  
Star Route HC 66-1250  
Crescent Valley, Nevada 89821

The project is located in Crescent Valley, Lander County, Nevada. The Administrator has prepared tentative determinations regarding the operating permit that, in brief, are the following:

Barrick Gold U.S., Inc. - Cortez Gold Mines current gold mining operations consist of the Pipeline Mine and the Cortez Mill. The operations are currently regulated under Class II Air Quality Operating Permits AP1041-0619 (Pipeline Mine) and AP1041-1500 (Cortez Mill). The planned development of two new gold deposits, the Cortez Hills and Pediment deposits, will include a new crushing plant and a 12 mile long overland conveyor system that will carry ore from the proposed Cortez Hills open pit to the Pipeline Mill. The regulatory result will be to combine the two operations into a single facility that will be permitted under a new Class I Air Quality Operating Permit.

Emissions from Barrick CGM will not exceed the 250 ton per year PSD threshold for major source designation.

No adverse ambient air quality impacts are expected.

On the basis of the preliminary review and the requirements of the NRS, the NAC and the Clean Air Act, the Administrator is hereby announcing his intent to issue a Class I air quality operating permit based on a review of the information, as proposed. A copy of the draft operating permit is available for public inspection at:

This Document is for Electronic Distribution

Battle Mountain Branch Library  
625 South Broad Street  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820

Elko County Library  
720 Court Street  
Elko, Nevada 89801

Humboldt County Library  
85 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding this proposed action or to request a hearing pursuant to NRS 445B Air Pollution and NAC 445B Air Controls should submit their comments or request in writing either in person or by mail or fax within thirty (30) days to:

Randy Phillips  
Division of Environmental Protection  
Nevada Bureau of Air Pollution Control  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, Nevada 89701  
(775) 687-9362  
(775) 687-6396 FAX

The application, draft permit, any comments received, and other relevant information may be copied at the above address or copies may be obtained by requesting in writing at the above address. Written comments or objections, will be received at the Division of Environmental Protection, above address, until close of business on **December 07, 2007**, and will be retained and considered prior to final action on the Class I operating permit. Upon a valid written request received prior to the end of the comment period, the Administrator will schedule a public hearing on the application and proposed action.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know may be interested in this matter.